

Director-DWP, Program (DEP)

From: Director-DWP, Program (DEP)
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2016 3:43 PM
Subject: water utility infrastructure mapping

Dear Community Public Water Suppliers,

MassDEP is committed to assisting water utilities evaluation of their system vulnerabilities in light of documented severe weather impacts. To better evaluate, prioritize, and assist utilities with critical infrastructure resilience planning and adaptation, MassDEP has initiated an inventory of water utility infrastructure mapping on a statewide level. While remaining particularly cognizant of data security, this inventory includes a review of information publicly available online, coupled with previous mapping initiatives data and internal file review to better track mapping capabilities and status. Data compilation will ultimately be used to develop consistently formatted, statewide data layers for MassDEP internal use, which will enhance MassDEP's capabilities to more efficiently respond to water utility needs during both emergency and non-emergency scenarios. In addition, information obtained through this inventory will help determine and provide technical assistance for your water utility mapping needs.

In recent months, MassDEP has also been collaborating with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), which provided historical data on water supply distribution areas developed in 2007. DPH and MassDEP have been moving forward in a collective effort to assess and inventory available online maps. Based on the results of the online inventory, and with input from MassDEP, the Bureau of Environmental Health at DPH may reach out to your offices in an effort to request additional information on water distribution systems. Data provided will be used to create consistently formatted, digitized maps of water distribution boundaries. The boundary maps will be used by DPH to support routine public health research and strengthen DPH outreach and technical assistance capabilities. In addition, the boundary maps can be provided to respective water utilities for their own dissemination in response to residential or public information requests where a great level of detail is not necessary.

We thank you in advance for your participation in this important project. If you have any questions about this collaborative effort, please contact Kristin Divris of MassDEP's Water Utility Resilience Program at 508-849-4028 or Kristin.Divris@state.ma.us or Glennon Beresin of DPH's Bureau of Environmental Health at 617-624-5606 or Glennon.Beresin@state.ma.us.

Sincerely,



A. M. Yvette dePeiza
Director, Drinking Water Program